

increase in the attendance on the classes during the last two sessions of nearly fifty per cent. The diminution in number observable in 1857-58 from that of 1856-57 is readily accounted for by the severe financial crisis through which this Province, in common with other countries, has but recently passed.

The advantages for a thorough acquirement of a knowledge of his profession held out to the student of medicine by the Faculty, are the same as those they have for many years offered, and which have given to McGill College the reputation it now possesses both at home and abroad as a first-class medical school. No better proof of the efficiency of the teaching at this school can be offered than the fact, that honorable testimony to the proficiency of the alumni of McGill College has been repeatedly given by the different colleges of Great Britain and Ireland, and by the Army Medical Board. "I have heard," says Dr. Henry, Inspector General of Hospitals, H. P., "the Director General of the Army Medical Department express his approval of the system of medical education here, and say, more than once, the young men trained at the McGill College were amongst the most promising of the medical officers under his superintendence."

A very important change has been made since last year in the regulations of the Faculty as regards the qualifications of candidates for the medical degree. Heretofore students have been obliged, before presenting themselves for the degree, not only to bring forward proof of having studied, in accordance with the law of Canada East, for a period of four years, but also that of having attended lectures during at least "four sessions either in this university or some other university, college, or school of medicine, approved of by this university." This was found, in several instances, to bear heavily on students who had already pursued their studies for a period of a year or more in the surgery of a licensed practitioner, and who had in their possession certificates to that effect. It was represented to the Faculty, moreover, that McGill College was the only medical institution in Canada that required of candidates for her degree, attendance on lectures during four sessions. For these reasons, therefore, the Faculty have determined to alter the regulation in question so as to make it obligatory on students to attend lectures for three